Ministry to implement the scheme and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (c) The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, has not undertaken, on its own, any artificial rain operations in the recent past, but has been providing technical assistance/information on cloud seeding to State Governments for their operational programmes whenever such requests are received from them.

The results of cloud seeding experiments conducted in many countries including India have so far been varying and the technology is considered to be, by and large, in the 'research state'. As such, Govt. of India has, presently, no plans to produce artificial rains on an operational basis.

PRODUCTION OF MUSHROOMS IN THE COUNTRY

3300. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total production of mushrooms in the country;

(b) what is the share of domestic consumption and export;

(c) what is the units value realisation, in both cases;

(d) what is the cost of production;

(e) what steps are taken to encourage mushroom cultivation; and

(f) what are the details, thereof, statewise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Official estimates on production of mushrooms are not available. However as per rough estimates 12,000 tonnes of white button mushrooms are produced in the country.

(b) The share of domestic consumption and export is approximately 84 per cent and 16 per cent respectively.

(c) Unit of realisation in domestic consumption is 1=1.5—2 and export is 1=1.75.

(d) The cost of production of white button mushroom is ranging from Rs. 10-18 per kg depending upon the technology adopted.

(e) and (f) Steps taken to encourage mushroom cultivation are :—

(i) To promote mushroom cultivation a Central Sector Scheme is being implemented with an outlay of Rs. 1000 lakh during the VIII plan, for establishing spawn production units, pasteurised compost units and training of the farmers. Details are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below)

(ii) Indian Council of Agriculture Research is operating All India Coordinated Mushroom Improvement Project at coordinated centre in Pune, Ludhiana, Coimbatore, Raipur, Pant Nagar, Faizabad, Udaipur besides establishing National Centre for mushroom research and training, Solan which are engaged in research, training, guidance for cultivation and spawn supply.

(iii) Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is also providing assistance under its schemes for development of export oriented production and export of horticultural products which include mushroom also.

Statement

State-wise steps taken to encourage mushroom cultivation during 8th Plan

Sl. No.	States	Setting up of pasturised compost production units (Nos.)	Setting up of spawn production laboratories (Nos.)	Training to the farmers (Nos.)
1.	Assam	1	1	800
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	800
3.	Chandigarh	1	1	800
4.	Delhi	1	1	800
5.	Goa	1	1	800
6.	Bihar	2	2	2400
7.	Haryana	2	2	2400
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	–	800
9.	J&K	1	1	800
10.	Kerala	1	1	800
11.	Maharashtra	1	1	800
12.	Meghalaya	1	1	800
13.	Manipur	1	1	800
14.	M.P.	2	2	1600
15.	Nagaland	1	1	800
16.	Punjab	2	2	2400
17.	Rajasthan	2	2	1600
18.	Tamil Nadu	2	2	2400
19.	Tripura	1	1	800
20.	U.P.	2	2	2400
21.	West Bengal	2	2	1600

CONSUMPTION OF FERTILISERS

3301. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the consumption of various Nitrogen, phosphorous and postassium as well as complex fertilisers in the country during the last three years, year-wise and state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : State-wise total consumption on Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potash fertilisers in nutrient terms and complex fertilisers in product terms separately during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 is given in the Annexure.

(See Appendix CLXIX, Annexure No. 67)